

see why they should not follow the
fate of the others - there is very good reason
from no false disengagement at all to be
complete one - and that in the greater
number of the natural groups of
Astragalus - the true *Trojananthus*
have rarely ever any disengagement

I hope you have not many
new ones - of course will absorb
the few remaining unoccupied
names

I suppose you have heard of
the promising trip on which
the Gen. Hooker, T. Thorne and
Harvey have started for Switzerland

Leahy & his daughter are
coming down here next week
for a fortnightly country air

Mr Bentham's arm is getting
well though more slowly than
I hoped - He will have yet to
keep it for weeks in a sling

I expect to have to go to work
shortly on *Eriogonum* but do not
touch them again till I receive the
numbers. My MS was ready & I don't
like to revise it till it comes near printing
Ever yours
George Bentham

Portico Aug 5 1852

I will send more strings another time
than are what I happen to have about me - &
chiefly in stamped envelopes.

My dear Gray

If your specimen of *Ash* be the
same as my *F. latifolia*, the
whole must be reduced to *F.*
americana - The leaves in my
specimen are very much broader
and rounder and all the points
are emarginate like the two herewith
sent. - It is however not impossible
that all may be mere varieties of
F. americana

Your *Wattieria* (*W. lonora* 904)
certainly appears distinct from *W. americana*
All my specimens of that plant (which
are very numerous from Asia Africa
and America) have all the very villous
calyxes etc. and only vary in the form
of the leaves the more or less dense and
repile or pedunculate inflorescence length
of the style length of free part of
filaments. more or less pubescence of
petals - none have any approach to
the cinereo tomentose indumentum of
Wright's plant.
I have however precisely Wright's

plant from British Guiana (Rob.
Schomburgk 2^d Coll. n. 497. Rich Schomb.
n. 761) which I had considered as
probably a new species. The ovary is
tomentose but curiously villous at the apex.

M. cinerascens 1st Coll. from
Mexico. Ovary is very near
but appears a more robust
plant with the inflorescence generally
terminal in large compact more
or less leafy cymes - with however
occasionally a few axillary heads.
The flowers are larger & the ovary
very villous.

There is a *M. glomerata* Presl
from Panama only known to me
by the diagnosis in Walpers, which appears
to have the same whitish indumentum
but the characters do not agree.

I do not possess the *chrenatiflora*
^{node} or compare your *M. laevigata*
with - It does not answer to the
char. - The Peruvian plants of
Dot. Pulph. were mostly in
Hooker's herb.

Spondium reparium agrees with
South American specimens except
that the pedicels are shorter and
the petals apparently minute but

I suspect this may arise from
the flowers at the crown these
were gathered being semiaborted
though fertile like the apetalous
flowers of the odorata set of Mola.

S. parietariifolium DC. is merely
identical with *S. reparium* though
put in a different section, ^{leg.}
evidently by mistake as Kunth's
& species are put under labellum
calyx vix duplo longiore subrepente
although all have the labellum
"longe unguiculatum" and one
has it calyce "quintuplo longius".
DC. had not seen *S. reparium* when he
described *S. parietariifolium*.

Oreocarya sagora appears to me
quite distinct from *O. decupata* of
which I have Mexican specimens
of Galeotti's garden (in W. Hooker
and of Halim's n. 13 from D. Torrey).

All the European ~~Chaco~~ and
Asiatic ~~Chaco~~ must go into *Astragalus*
except possibly *A. boetica* which I have
not yet examined and somebody makes
a new genus of. - As to American ones
I have not carefully examined the
large inflated noddies but I doubt